



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Bone Marrow Donor Registry was established in 1989 at St. Francis Medical Center, is affiliated with the National Marrow Donor Program/Be The Match, and is the only Marrow Donor Registry in our islands; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Bone Marrow Donor Registry / Be The Match Hawaii has facilitated more than 503 bone marrow and stem cell collections for patients, in Hawai'i as well as internationally, and currently manages over 73,000 registered donors; and

WHEREAS, there are over 14,000 patients in need of a matching marrow donor;

WHEREAS, every year, approximately 12,000 patients are diagnosed with life-threatening cancers or other diseases such as sickle cell for which a blood stem cell transplant from an unrelated donor may be their best or only hope for a cure;

WHEREAS, despite there being more than 9 million potential donors in the Be the Match Registry® in the U.S., less than 1% of available donors on the national registry identify as Pacific Islanders (including Hawaiian, Samoan, Chamorro, Filipino);

WHEREAS, the multi-ethnic heritage of our Hawai'i residents makes it difficult to match donors with recipients due to unique HLA blood-tissue types; most Hawaii donor matches are generally found with individuals of the same or similar ethnic heritage;

WHEREAS, as the donor registry becomes more ethnically diverse, more marrow donor matches will likely occur;

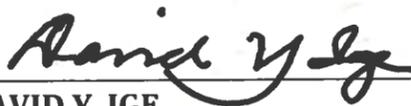
WHEREAS, as part of his Eagle Scout project, Riley Yoshio Regan, a Life Scout with Aloha Council's Troop 325, in partnership with Be the Match Hawai'i, is hosting marrow donor registry events throughout Hawai'i in August 2021, to help find donors for various Hawai'i patients who are having difficulty finding a match;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 2021 as

"MARROW DONOR REGISTRY MONTH"

in Hawai'i to encourage residents to register as a marrow donor or attend a marrow donor drive throughout Hawaii to help Life Scout Riley Regan achieve his goal of obtaining at least 1,000 more individuals to join the Be The Match Hawaii donor registry.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first day of August 2021.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i